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No. 132

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

Washington, DC, September 24, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. David Shibley, President, Global Advance, Dallas, Texas, offered the following prayer:

"Our fathers' God, to Thee, author of liberty, to Thee we sing. Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light. Protect us by Thy might, great God our King."

Eternal Father, we acknowledge, as President Lincoln said, "the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord." We humbly affirm that "unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord keeps the city, the watchman stands guard in vain."

May You be our defense, and may You grant to this Congress Your wisdom and compassion. May the Members of this great House, their families and staffs experience the joy of knowing You and walking in Your ways.

Forgive us when we have tried to govern independent of Your will. Grant us the moral clarity and moral courage that will make us a lighthouse to the nations. May we as a Nation and may these public servants be guided by Your Word and Your Holy Spirit.

I ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CROWLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1404. An act to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. DAVID SHIBLEY, PRESIDENT, GLOBAL ADVANCE, DALLAS, TEXAS

(Mr. HALL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the world's minister here. He is my neighbor in Rockwall, Texas. Rockwall is the smallest county of 254 counties in Texas, and he is my neighbor, he is my friend, and, as I say, he is the world's pastor.

Dr. Shibley has spent his life dedicated to the spreading of the Gospel throughout the world. Through his work and through private donations, he has afforded on-site training for over 193,000 pastors and church leaders in 53 nations and has equipped them with books and ministry resources in 13 languages.

Today, as we worry about the Nation and worry about the men and women overseas and we pray for our President, we may have the strongest intercontinental ballistic missile system and the best military hardware of anyone in the world, but we know today the greatest power we have and the power we need is the power of prayer.

Thank you, Dr. Shibley, for your prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will hear up to 10 one-minute messages from each side.

REIN IN THE FEDERAL COURTS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the first amendment does not guarantee us freedom from religion in government or anywhere else, but freedom of religion. That is an important difference. It offers the people the ability to determine the role of religion that takes place in society.

But as the issue stands now, the courts, elected by no one, can determine the time, place and content of all religious displays at every level of government. They have even prevented a 4-year-old in New Jersey from giving his classmates pencils that happen to say "Jesus loves the little children" on them. The courts have embarked on a crusade to save us all from religion.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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